

EAST VALLEY COLLABORATIVE
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO
CHILDREN'S NETWORK & FIRST 5 SAN BERNARDINO

MISSION/PURPOSE

The East Valley Collaborative is a community partnership, committed to sharing collective knowledge and resources to enhance the quality of life by supporting youth and their families through education and the provision of mental, physical, and social services.

MEETING MINUTES
September 16, 2003

In Attendance:

Gerry Arce, VBI Community Center	(909) 384-5499
Stephani Congdon, Bethel Community Outreach	(909) 757-7363
Ruth Griffin, First 5 San Bernardino	(909) 386-7706
Joe Guzman, Mental Health Systems, Inc.	(909) 890-1523
Ron Hernandez, Cameron Hill Aftercare	(909) 890-4301
Veatrice Jews, IECAAC	(909) 884-7522
Terri Larson, Somebody Cares Southland	(909)
Tanya Mejia, Public Health	(909) 386-8165
Avante Simmons, CRY-ROP	(909) 793-3115
Venice Waggoner, County Preschool Services	(909) 383-3442
Nick Watson, Public Health	(909) 388-5600
Shelaundra Adams, The Book of Acts/Project Network	(909) 884-8241
Linda Pederson, St. John's Community Success Center	(909) 889-1195
Melissa German, SB County Public Health AIDS/STD	(909) 387-6653
Andy Ndlela, SB County Public Health	(909) 387-9130
Barb Kirby, Children's Center at Cal-State San Bernardino	(909) 880-5928
Jeanne Smith, Center for Healing Childhood Trauma	(909) 875-5288
June Chandler, Volunteers of America	(909) 888-4577
Jeannetta Million, A Servant's Heart	(909) 880-2044
Mildred Henry, the PAL Center	(909) 887-7002
Noella Buchanan, Bethel Community Outreach	(909) 356-4221
Carmen Webster, Inland Smart Solutions	(909) 351-4225
Joann Roberts, First 5 San Bernardino	(909) 386-7706

Jacqualina Darden, PTCC	(909) 357-0977
C.J., KRLA	(909) 844-5533
Don Larkin, Executive Director – First 5 San Bernardino	(909) 386-7706
Kent Paxton, Network Officer, Children’s Network	(909) 387-8966
Marci Aguirre, SB County Public Health, Child and Adolescent Health	
Jackie of IEHP	
Mary Jaquish, Children’s Network, Chair	(909) 387-9074
Tammy Williams, Children’s Network	(909) 387-5365

1. Welcome and Introductions

Mary welcomed all those in attendance. Today’s meeting is the first since the summer. Introductions were made at the end for round table due to the number of guests to speak today.

2. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

No additions or deletions to the agenda.

3. Approval of July Minutes

No additions or corrections to the minutes as submitted.

4. Kent Paxton, Network Officer and Don Larkin, Executive Director for First 5 Joint Chairmanship of East Valley Collaborative

Some of the highlights from Kents’ presentation were:

Kent referred everyone to the handout on the Community Assistance Network that has more details. He gave the following brief history about Children’s Network. In 1985 Children’s Network was formed as a recommendation from the Board of Supervisors to handle such topics as child abuse prevention education. A main focus of Children’s Network has been to collaborate with the community, not just county agencies in order to provide needed services to families that are served by multiple agencies. For example, Focus West was formed in 1985 and has developed a strong partnership. Focus West through their strong partnership and collaboration has leveraged around 5 million dollars of grant funding for community services. The High Desert Partnership for Kids and East Valley Collaboratives are forming strong partnerships and are beginning to leverage funds as well. Mary Jaquish will be moving to the First 5 in about one month, but will continue to provide technical grant assistance, resource development, funding opportunities and a host of other duties. Through the partnership there will be more of a focus on resource development, program development, funding opportunities, and information on RFP (Request for Proposal) the County has available.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention month, Children's Network hosts a breakfast recognizing individuals that go above and beyond assisting children and families in need, as well as a major distribution of child abuse prevention materials and activities which require partnership with agencies all over the county. Kent invited everyone to come to the annual Children's Network Conference on Thursday, September 18th at the Ontario Convention Center. Part of the conference focus will be on the "new" Child Welfare Services Redesign. The goal of the redesign is to focus more on prevention, partnering with the faith and community based, to identify at risk families by coming together to provide multiple services for multiple needs. In the future, Kent will be doing presentations on what the new Child Welfare Services Redesign will look like for our partners. Each month there will be more discussions about expanding services for the 0 to 18 for school readiness, improved school performance, prevention of Juvenile Hall placements, and prevention of teen pregnancies.

Some of the highlights from Don's presentation were:

The basic focus of First 5 has been the zero to five population, but they are beginning to focus more on the holistic approach by having agencies integrate and work closely together so that children are not just kicked out because they turned aged six. Mary will continue to work closely with agencies serving children to assist in streamlining processes and assist in identifying gaps of service. Mary will be working to make the Kelly Torres Resource Center available more to the public by assisting those using it. First 5 Strategic Planning process should be finalized soon, and that information will be shared with the collaboratives. The First 5 Strategic Planning will fit nicely with the "new" Child Welfare Services Redesign by working more closely with community and through collaboration to fill gaps of services. At the collaboratives there be more discussion about mixing and matching funding streams for the purpose of program development and to achieve better outcomes for families by blending funds.

Kent and Don agreed to keep the collaborative members informed and included on future updates of activities, etc.

5. Guest Speaker: Marci Aguirre and Fides Escobal of Child and Adolescent Health, Department of Public Health – CHDP Gateway

Some of the highlights from Marci Aguirre and Fides Escobal presentation were:

- A copy of a power point presentation was distributed with an overview of the CHDP Gateway Program.
- Marci mentioned she would be giving a full presentation at the Children's Network conference that will go into more detail on Thursday, September 18th.

- In the past the program was funded by the government and served children with no insurance for: exams, health screening, immunizations, physicals, and well baby check ups.
- The CHDP program has been on the chopping block due to the budget crisis, but was reinstated with a different focus.
- The focus is still on prevention, but the gateway is used to screen families for Medi-Cal and Healthy Families' eligibility.
- The children are given presumptive eligibility for full-scope Medi-Cal to cover two months for full services from a provider.
- During those two months the child can go to a specialist and/or a dentist
- The parents are mailed a joint application for Medi-Cal and Healthy Families.
- There are currently 180 CHDP providers in this county with more physicians encouraged to sign up ASAP or at least before the December 31, 2003 deadline.
- There is lots of case management done and follow-up to get families signed up for medical insurance. If the families do not qualify for Medi-Cal or Healthy Families they are referred to IEHP (Inland Empire Health Plan). IEHP covers the undocumented as well and will look to see what services the child has already received.

At IEHP and CHDP they check the Meds. System to see what the families' eligibility status.

- A question was asked what if a child needs braces that cannot be completed within 60 days? Edward Moreno stated that IEHP pays for the initial treatment and the family would have to pay for the all the costs after 60 days.
- There was a question raised about a 16 or 17 year old that had been kicked out of the house and required treatment for an STD. It was stated there are confidentiality laws stating that the child can be seen?
- The families are given an 800-telephone number (1-800-722-3777) for any questions they have may regard the Gateway program.

6. Guest Speaker: Stacy Iverson of First 5 San Bernardino, and Edward Moreno, IEHP – Healthy Kids Initiative

Stacy could not make the meeting today, so Joann Roberts from First 5 came on her behalf. Joann mentioned she is very excited about the partnership First 5 has with IEHP. First 5 set aside millions of dollars through IEHP to provide health insurance for some needy children in this county that do not qualify for Medi-Cal or Healthy Families.

Jackie came and spoke on behalf of Edward Moreno. Some highlights of Jackie's Presentation were:

- In 1998 voters voted for Proposition 10, which slated cigarette sales for the 58 counties to be distributed to Prop. 10 commissions.
- The state distributes the funding by the number of live births in each county.

- San Bernardino County is the 4th largest county benefiting from Prop. 10 funding.
- First 5 of San Bernardino are in the middle of their Strategic Planning Process.
- Now there is 10 million dollars set aside for special projects from First 5.
- There will be a packet developed as of October 1st of what type of special projects can be funded. (If agency is funded now, probably will not be eligible and will have to wait for 12 months to apply). (The funding will also be geared to smaller agencies that have unique projects in mind for the 0 to 5 populations).
- Mary gave the following helpful hints to agencies that plan to apply for funding through grants: need to have framework for proposals, need to have their organizational capacity identified, must be organized and focused with your plans for the funding, etc.
- Several million dollars was set aside with a contract for IEHP so that some children not eligible through the CHDP Gateway process would have another type of medical insurance they may be eligible for.
- Jackie mentioned Edward Moreno is the Community Outreach manager for IEHP.
- The IEHP – Healthy Kids Initiative was just funded for several million dollars through First 5 to cover children up to the age of 19.
- The enrollment was started about a month ago for the Healthy Kids health plan and vision plans to cover the 0 to 19 for the 300% below Federal poverty level. The Medi-Cal covers 0 to 100% below Federal poverty level and the Healthy Families covers the 100% to 250% below Federal poverty level.
- IEHP has a bilingual telecenter that provides screening of families for Medi-Cal, Healthy Families and IEHP. Turnaround applications are 1 day.
- Jackie mentioned his staff works closely with CHDP staff to insurance families are getting the medical insurance they need.
- The families are asked to send proof of residency for 90 days such as a rental receipt, school documentation, and proof of income or a self-declaration letter. Those items are specifically difficult for the undocumented families to obtain.
- Members who become pregnant during their coverage period receive prenatal care and care for the new born up to 30 days, (and then the newborn is eligible for Medi-Cal).
- The co-pay for visits and most prescriptions are \$5.
- Once the children qualify for membership they can get; a free car seat, free vitamins up to the age of 2, free bicycle helmet, as well as dental and vision care.
- The dental care is \$5 a visit, \$10 for x-rays and \$10 for cleanings. Vision same co-pays as the medical. The mental health services also have a co-pay for visits.
- The IEHP – Healthy Kids does not have a monthly premium only a one-time \$20 application fee.
- The hours at the telecenter for IEHP are Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Fridays are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The telephone number is 1-866-294-IEHP.

- For each year renewal the fee is the one time \$20 application fee along with the required proof of residency and income.
- The families are given referrals to doctors that are close to where they live. The parents are also given bus route schedules to take.
- The applications are placed in a pending or denial status within the 10 day time frame.
- There are 600 physicians to choose from for the IEHP plan, unfortunately none in the Big Bear area.
- Applicants are encouraged to complete the application process within 31 days at the latest.
- Some reasons for dis-enrollment from IEHP would be: age 20 and older, false statements made on application, move out of San Bernardino County, not applying for Medi-Cal or Healthy Families, and basic non-compliance.
- The funding from First 5 San Bernardino will cover about 3,000 children on a first come first served basis.
- Mary mentioned that the Medi-Cal, IEHP and Healthy Families all have the same goal of getting health coverage to the needy especially for the undocumented and as a preventive measure.
- There has been many articles in the newspapers encouraging families to apply for the insurance plans.
- IEHP is especially attractive when both parents are working but can't not afford and/or qualify for medical insurance for their families.
- To be eligible for IEHP you cannot be on an employers' health insurance plan for the last 90 days.
- Jackie mentioned they do have a Project Angel that they can assist on a limited basis for things such as connections to churches, food banks, CBO and assistance in shelters.
- It was mentioned that 50% of the lower wage earners do not have any medical insurance through their jobs.
- Jackie mentioned that the IEHP plan in San Bernardino County works closely with Riverside County.
- Jackie mentioned they are doing their advertising through First 5 and participants that come to collaborative meetings. They also have handed out information at the local schools.
- Edward's direct telephone number is (909) 890-2760 and you can also reach him through the 800 number given earlier.
 - It was mentioned that Pacific Care handles Mental Health issues.
- Brochures have been distributed to the County Welfare Offices.
- Jackie mentioned she has gotten lots of inquiries from the County Schools for information on the program.
- If the parent has worked and received health care coverage, he/she cannot be on a health plan coverage for the last 90 days for eligibility purposes.

Mary Jaquish mentioned she has been a member on some of the Strategic Planning Committees for First 5 and one of the big issues mentioned by the community was Lack of health care access for the low income that did not qualify for Medi-Cal or Healthy Families. First 5 saw the pattern and contracted with IEHP to provide some Funds so more needy children in this county would be able to access the health care they so desperately needed.

7. Handouts and Round Table Discussion

✓ Mary Jaquish of Children's Network reported: There are so many conferences and things going on. She reminded the group to make sure their information is correct on the sign up sheet going around. Mary encouraged all those present to review the current MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) for the East Valley Collaborative to make sure the information is correct and to add their agency if needed. The MOU is very useful when applying for grants, coordinating resources for families, etc. Mary is working on an updated resource directory to be included in the backpacks that will be distributed in October at Arrowhead Elementary School in San Bernardino. The resources are given to parents to give them the needed contacts in the community for assistance. Already 1,000 backpacks were distributed at Emmerton Elementary School for the low-income children to make them more prepared for school. Mary referred everyone to the Community Assistance Network, which has stapled to it some funding alerts and useful information numbers for San Bernardino City. Mary mentioned that the sign in sheet needs to have updated e-mail addresses as she e-mails funding opportunities, education items, etc. in between times the collaboratives meet. Mary referred everyone to the funding alert information in the Community Assistance Network packet as well as the additional funding information, job opportunities, and training opportunities in their agenda packets. She reminded the group that Best Buy has a funding cycle for technology grants that ends in October. All State insurance has National, and State Programs for funding of literacy programs, community development and health education. Starbucks has applications on their web site for literacy and community development programs (must show partnership with a local Starbucks). The Kids Care America is a faith based after school program that has free technical assistance and should be a good program; packets are on the resource table for further details.

✓ Terri Larson of Somebody Cares Southland reported: Somebody Cares Southland is a faith based non-profit organization. They are working on establishing neighborhood service centers in San Bernardino, Rialto, Colton, Fontana, and Highland. They are involved in providing training, food distribution, education, etc. Through collaboration with this collaborative and the Emmerton Collaborative they were able to distribute free backpacks with supplies for children in poverty. There was recently a good article in the Sun Telegram about the backpack distribution program.

✓ Stephani Congdon reported: Stephani was at the meeting representing Bethel Community Outreach and the Calvary Christian School. Stephani reported she is very excited about getting outreach programs for the north end of San Bernardino through the collaborative contacts she made at this meeting.

✓ Announcement: There will be a walk for recovery in March with a mini walk on September 27th from Sylvan Park to the Police station. Judge Morris will be a speaker at the event. There will food, games for children, and raffle prizes.

✓ Ron Hernandez of Cameron Hill Aftercare reported: They specifically serve youth aging out of the foster care system ages 18 to 21. They are contracted through the Department of Children's Services to provide the youth; job development, career counseling, housing referrals, and a variety of other services.

✓ Linda Pederson of St. John's Community Success Center reported: They provide an after school program at the city school districts. Next week they plan to organize a support group for teen mothers.

✓ Venice Waggoner of County Preschool Services reported: They now have services for the age group 3 to 5 for extended day care.

✓ Sandra Chalupnik of the Center for Healing Childhood Trauma reported: Sandra is the Operations Director. They provide; parenting classes, domestic violence prevention, anger management, and child sexual abuse treatment.

✓ Jeanne Smith of the Center for Healing Childhood Trauma reported: They provide group counseling for children ages 4 to 17 that have been molested as well as physical abused. They have some adult therapy programs. Many clients referred to them have had multiple abuses and can receive individual therapy. They have a Family Resource Center that was funded through a CAPIT (Child Abuse Prevention Intervention Treatment) grant. They are located in Rialto and serve the communities of Rialto, Fontana, and Colton but will serve others seeking services. Jeanne can be reached at (909) 875-5288.

✓ Barb Kirby of Children's Center of Cal-State San Bernardino reported: She is the director at the center. They serve children ages 3 to 10.

✓ Nick Watson of Public Health reported: His division serves high-risk teens ages 12 to 18 and TANF based families. Nick can be reached at (909) 388-5600.

✓ Andy Ndelela of the San Bernardino Department of Public Health reported: He works specifically with two identified hotspots 92335 and 92404 where there is a high number of youth 14 to 25 with STD sexually transmitted diseases. They also work in partnership with the AIDS program through Public Health.

✓ Melissa German of San Bernardino Public Health AIDS/STD reported: Two areas they concentrate their services are on 92335 and 92404. Another project SKIP they provide technical support and assistance to providers to decrease sexual activities of the youth. They have developed a small resource directory to share with the community. Melissa can be reached at (909) 387-6653.

✓ June Chandler of Early Head Start reported: They just moved to their new location on 720 South E Street, San Bernardino. June can be reached at (909) 888-4577. They will have a childcare center and a home based program for 0 to 3. June reported they are currently waiting for Community Care Licensing to come out and license their facility.

✓ Jeannetta Million of A Servant's Heart reported: They provide a re-entry program for women and men parolees to assist them with living needs.

✓ Tanya Mejia of Public Health reported: She referred everyone to a flyer she distributed with more details of the Reproductive Health Services available.

✓ Ruth Griffin of First 5 San Bernardino reported: Ruth has available Kits for Parents, please see her if you would like to distribute them to new parents you serve.

✓ Avante Simmons of CRY-ROP reported: Avante mentioned that she felt this was a very successful collaboration. Due to budget constraints they will be focusing their new labor program on careers in warehouses and technical education. Avante referred everyone to the resource table where her flyers were located with more details.

✓ Veatrice Jews of the IECAAC reported: She is the health chairperson for the council of churches. On October 25th at Jefferson Hunt Elementary they will be having a Health Faire and expect around 1,000 people in attendance. This year they are partnering with Farmers, whom will be taking photos and fingerprinting of children. The faire will be held the hours of 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. She invited everyone to have a booth and share their information with the community. Veatrice can be reached at (909) 884-7522.

✓ Mildred Henry of The Pal Center reported: Mildred referred everyone to the flyers on the Resource Table. They provide about 6 slots for the 18 to 21 year olds for year around employment and academics. They have a charter school for grades 9 to 12. Some other programs they have are; a child care center, and adult program for GED, ESL, starting in November they will start having some civic programs, and they have an Upward Bound program for the College bound students that has been very successful.

They will be having a fund raising event on October 11th with the Judge from the Divorce Court, along with icons to be there. Supervisor Eaves will be honored.

√Gerry Arce of the VBI Community Center reported: Through the police department the community policing was started and the coordination of the VBI (Value Based Initiative) for partnering with the faith-based community to provide more solutions. The focus of the grant this year is to collaborate with the churches in 5 sites in the city to work with high-risk youth. He is involved with the Mentoring Collaborative and the next meeting is September 25th from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 at 555 Sierra Way in San Bernardino. Mary Jaquish will be providing some of the training at the September 25th event to assist the faith based in getting prepared and organized when applying for grants. On September 26th at the Police Department on 7th and D Streets in San Bernardino another workshop will be held on Developing Youth and Mentoring. The keynote speaker will be Thelma Johnson and there should be some flyers in your agenda packets with further details. The Community Summit will be October 11th at the Radisson, which is being organized by the San Bernardino Police Department. There should be lots of community there with a huge youth component. Some activities at the October 11th event will be; there will be employers conducting interviews and hiring on the spot, there will be clothes donated for the youth, they will also be offered to have a free haircuts and the girls will be offered a make over. Last year there were over 700 in attendance at the Community Summit. The event is free, Gerry Arce suggested contacting Sherry Williams to register for the event. Another upcoming event is the October 18th half-day session on the Separation of State and Church that will be held at 3701 N. Sierra Way. The main speaker will be Brad Backes and it is expected there will be 500 in attendance. Some other events are; Senator Brulte and Assemblyman Bob Dutton will be speaking at the Community Renewal Conference on Saturday, November 8th. Lastly, on February 19th there will be a Faith and Justice Summit hosted by the Cops and Clergy Network for the community at the Rock Christian Center on South Waterman and the event is free.

√Reverend Noella Buchanan of the Bethel Community Outreach reported: She is involved with the Teen Pregnancy and Prevention Outreach Program in Rialto and Fontana AB Miller and Cottage schools. Some programs they are working on adding are nursing, food program, a 15 week basketball program for men the ages of 17 to 24, etc. She mentioned that she is always looking for funding and mentioned that Stephani Congdon has been a great resource.

√Joann Roberts of First 5 San Bernardino reported: Joann is a Program Specialist involved with Special Projects. She is in attendance today for Stacy Iverson.

√Robert Hernandez of PTLC reported: PTLC is the Positive Transitions Learning Center that serves children, youth, and adults. They have an after school program that focuses on academics and computers. They also provide a computer literacy program for adults. They serve the low income or the no income. They get their funding from a variety of sources.

Robert mentioned he is also involved with the IECAAC through a Plea Program with offenders that have warrants and tickets to perform community service. Through the Plea Program he was able to help 28 offenders.

√Robert Darden for Jacqualina Darden reported: They recently started a Family Day Care Center that is Christian based. The children they serve are very involved with church. They collaborate with the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in San Bernardino. The day care center is located in Rialto. For further details, contact them at (909) 357-0977.

√C.J. of KRLA reported: C.J. works with KRLA and Showtime communications. He is a Program Director working with advertising. He makes sure community events are place don the airway, there is a charge, but he can work with you. C.J. can be reached at (909) 874-5533.

Mary Jaquish – Any questions for her? You are welcome to make an appointment with her to go over funding, getting your non-profit status, etc. Mary announced she will be moving to First 5 San Bernardino in October. Her new telephone number will be (909) 387-9074. Mary has many more funding opportunities to go through and will e-mail them to you if they are pertinent. Put in your tickler file for July, 2004 the Capitol Compassion Funds for the faith-based will be up again. Mary mentioned there are so many things you must do to get ready for funding such as; what are the long-range goals for your organization? make sure your strategic planning is completed, meet with a CPA to make sure your budget is in order, have a board of directors, and affiliations, etc.

**8. NEXT MEETING DATE: October 21, 2003
2 p.m. to 3: 30 p.m.**

**County Superintendent of Schools
601 N. “E” Street
Conference Room A/B
San Bernardino**

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Williams, Recording Secretary
Children’s Network

/tgw